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28 September 1967

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Weekly Briefing of @DESSAU on 28 September 1967

- 1. The briefing was on the election in Vietnam and the Congo. In accordance with the DDI directive that a senior official attend all briefings on Vietnam,

  I attended and did the briefing on the Congo.

  The briefing on Vietnam was handled by I.

  @DESSAU was well prepared for the briefing on Vietnam, and he pushed quite hard to get our views on whether there will be real political opposition when the new government is formed in Vietnam. At the conclusion of the briefing,

  @DESSAU invited both Molly and Waldo to cocktails at his home on 24 October.
- 2. After the briefing @DESSAU said that he had just learned that he would not be able to move into his new house until sometime in January after his return from Australia. It seems that, except for bedroom furniture, all the furniture for the new house is being purchased in Germany and will have to be transported here by ship. @DESSAU said that the reason for this was the desire on the part of his Headquarters to allow their representative to present an authentic German atmosphere when he entertained.
- 3. @DESSAU said that he had received a lengthy cable from the "doktor" on 27 September which had a most happy tone. He said that there has been no decision reached on a successor to the "doktor". He said he did not think that General Wessel has as yet had his talk with the Chancellor. Wessel found it necessary to make a NATO trip to Norway which brought about the necessity for a postponement. @DESSAU said that Wessel should have returned to Bonn by now, and he expects the postponed talk to take place momentarily. He noted that the "doktor" had ended his cable with a line expressing how pleased everyone there was with the presence of [ ].
- 4. On the way out of the briefing area, we ran across

  \[ \] and \[ \] \quad in the hallway. We chatted briefly, and \[ \] \quad \text{referred to the recent} \]

  ADN press release which, as \[ \] \quad \text{put it, "said}

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that Dick Helms is attempting to name the successor to General Gehlen." Later, when we were alone, @DESSAU referred to the ADN release and expressed the uneasiness he had felt upon first reading the release. He said that he, Rolf, Bill, and I were the only ones who knew of the proposal to have the Director speak with Kiesinger. I suggested to him that there might have been several people in Munich who were aware of the proposal, but he expressed a degree of certainty that the "doktor" had not discussed the proposal with anyone. He said that he had handled the matter so securely that he himself had cut the tape for the cable to the "doktor". I suggested the possibility that the "doktor" had broached the matter with the Chancellor's office and that some of the journalists surrounding the Chancellor might have learned of it. However, @DESSAU felt that the "doktor" had not done this, and he gave as his own view the likelihood that the East Germans had simply made a lucky guess.